

Remarks

In response to the Office Action mailed December 28, 2005 (hereinafter “the 12/28/2005 Office Action”), claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 11, 14, 16, and 19 have been amended. No claims have been added or cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-20 are all of the claims currently pending in the application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, allowance of all the rejected claims is anticipated.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,772,137 to Hurwood *et al.* (hereinafter “Hurwood”). While this rejection is improper at least because Hurwood does not teach or suggest all of the features of the claimed invention, claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 have been amended to clarify various aspects of the invention with respect to Hurwood. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

For example, claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “extracting at least one portion of the at least one object by generating a meta-document representation of the at least one portion...[, and] processing the meta-document representation on the processor to normalize the one or more object repositories, wherein processing the meta-document representation comprises mapping a field in the meta-document representation with a field designation identifier.” Independent claims 6, 11, and 16 include similar recitations, among other things.

Hurwood appears to discuss managing XML report objects (*e.g.*, object 306 in FIG. 3) stored in a single object repository (*e.g.*, object repository 304 in FIG. 3). However, the XML report objects in Hurwood are generated in response to user queries (made in relation to databases separate from the object repository) to enable access to the query results through a plurality of interfaces. *See*, Hurwood at col. 1, lines 47-53. Therefore, the XML report objects described by Hurwood are not meta-document representations of objects stored in object repositories that are processed to normalize the object repositories. Accordingly, Hurwood does not teach or suggest the feature of the claimed invention provided above. For at least this reason the rejection of claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-4, 7-9, 11-14, and 17-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hurwood in view of EP 1143356 to Shanahan (hereinafter “Shanahan”). Applicants disagree with these rejections at least because (1) the cited references do not teach or suggest all of the features of the claimed invention, and/or (2) Shanahan is non-analogous art.

Shanahan fails to address the deficiencies of Hurwood as set forth above. Therefore, for at least the reasons previously provided, the rejection of these claims is improper and should be withdrawn.

Further, Shanahan does not qualify as prior art for the purposes of this application because it is non-analogous art. A reference constitutes non-analogous art if it is from a different field of endeavor than the claimed invention, or if it is “reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the inventor was involved.” *Cross Medical Products, Inc. v. Medtronic Sofamor Danek, Inc.*, 424 F.3d 1293, 76 U.S.P.Q.2d 1662 (Fed.Cir. 2005)(*citation omitted*).

The field of endeavor of the instant application is the normalization of information using extensible markup language. See, the specification at page 1. In contrast, the disclosure of Shanahan is drawn to “the management and use of documents which act as autonomous agents, generating requests for information, then seeking, retrieving and packaging responses.” See, Shanahan at paragraph [0001]. Thus, the claimed invention are from different fields of endeavor. Additionally, the solution of Shanahan, which includes creating a document that uses meta-data to generate requests for additional data from the Internet and embeds the additional data in the document, would not have been reasonably pertinent to problem of normalizing information within object repositories (*e.g.*, databases, *etc.*). Therefore, Shanahan constitutes non-analogous art for the purposes of this application. For at least this reason, the rejection of claims 2-4, 7-9, 11-14, and 17-19 based on the combination of Hurwood and Shanahan is legally improper and must be withdrawn.

Claims 5, 10, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hurwood in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,553,365 to Summerlin *et al.*

(hereinafter "Summerlin"). Applicants traverse this rejection on the grounds that the rejection is improper at least because the cited references do not teach or suggest all of the features of the claimed invention.

Shanahan fails to address the deficiencies of Hurwood as set forth above. Therefore, for at least the reasons previously provided, the rejection of these claims is improper and should be withdrawn.

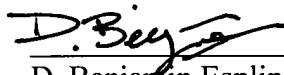
Conclusion

Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

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Respectfully submitted,



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